

<b>Work Task D2:</b>	<b>Marsh Bird Surveys</b>
<b>Point of Contact:</b>	John Swett, LC-2320 (702) 293-8574
<b>Purpose:</b>	In support of system monitoring, increase marsh bird survey effectiveness.
<b>Conservation Measures:</b>	MRM1 and MRM2
<b>Long-term Goal:</b>	If the new protocol proves to be effective, this program will be used to monitor marsh birds covered under the LCR MSCP and become a routine part of the System Monitoring portion of the Adaptive Management Plan.
<b>FY05 Estimate:</b>	Reclamation will conduct three surveys between U.S. Route 40 and Lake Havasu. Costs estimates are for staff time, travel, and equipment. Total FY05 costs are approximately \$50,000.
<b>Project Description:</b>	Yuma clapper rail (CLRA) surveys have been conducted annually along the LCR since 1995. In anticipation of the implementation of the LCR MSCP, the University of Arizona conducted a study to determine if CLRA surveys could be expanded to include all three marsh birds of interest to the LCR MSCP without compromising CLRA detection rates. This study has shown that one survey can be conducted for all marsh birds, including the LCR MSCP covered species (Yuma clapper rail, California black rail, and western least bittern). Reclamation will conduct marsh bird surveys, in 2005, using the newly established protocol, contingent upon Fish and Wildlife Service approval.
<b>Accomplishments to date:</b>	Clapper rail surveys have been conducted since the 1980's to monitor CLRA populations along the LCR. These data are available as baseline information to assess and track the general condition of the overall population.

<b>Work Task D3:</b>	<b>Southwestern Willow Flycatcher Presence/absence Surveys</b>
<b>Point of Contact:</b>	John Swett, LC-2320                      (702) 293-8574
<b>Purpose:</b>	Monitor southwestern willow flycatcher (SWFL) breeding populations along the Lower Colorado River (LCR) and conduct demography studies in four study areas to understand life requisites, habitat requirements, and population trends.
<b>Conservation Measures:</b>	MRM1 and MRM2
<b>Long-term Goal:</b>	Presence/absence surveys will be conducted for SWFL through the life of the LCR MSCP as part of system monitoring.
<b>FY05 Estimate:</b>	Reclamation has executed option year two of a contract with SWCA for presence absence surveys and life history studies. This will cost approximately \$785,000 in FY05 including field support and quality assessment.
<b>Project Description:</b>	Reclamation entered into a contract with SWCA in 2003 to conduct presence/absence surveys along the LCR from Separation Rapids in the Grand Canyon, including several tributaries of the LCR, to the Southerly International Boundary; and to conduct life histories studies at four areas.
<b>Accomplishments to date:</b>	Presence/absence surveys and life history studies began in 1996 under a cooperative agreement with the San Bernardino County Museum. These surveys and studies were conducted under the 1997 Biological and Conference Opinion for routine operations and maintenance of the LCR. A one year contract, with the potential for four option years, was entered into with SWCA in 2003.